

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and allowance in view of the foregoing amendment and the following remarks are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-2, 8-13 and 19-38 remain pending.

Claims 3-7 and 14-18 have been canceled from this application but will be pursued in a divisional application.

Formal drawings are submitted herewith.

Claim 23 was rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph. Claim 23 has been revised above to correct the matter noted by the Examiner and so as to be consistent with the disclosure at page 14, lines 32-34. No new matter has been added.

Applicant notes with appreciation the Examiner's indication that the remaining claims are allowed.

The Examiner returned an initialed and dated copy of the Form PTO-1449 filed with this application on February 13, 2002. It is noted that the listed Japanese document was listed by application number rather than publication number. A corrected Form PTO-1449 was submitted on March 21, 2002, but has not been returned by the Examiner. A copy of this document is again being supplied herewith and it has been re-listed as a foreign Patent publication. It is noted, that this Japanese Patent Publication Number 52-362037 was published from Japanese Application No. 50-110873, which is a priority application of, and thus apparently corresponds to U.S. Patent No. 4,109,633 which was previously supplied to and considered by the Examiner.

As suggested by 37 C.F.R. 1.97, the undersigned attorney brings to the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office the references listed on the attached form PTO-

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August 25, 2004

1449. This is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made or that no better prior art exists, or that a reference is relevant merely because cited.

The Rule 17(p) Official Fee required by Rule 97(c) in lieu of certification is filed herewith. Should that fee be missing or inadequate, please charge the deficiency to our Deposit Account No. 03-3975 under Order No. 2635/92.

The Examiner is requested to initial the attached form PTO-1449 and to return a copy of the initialed document to the undersigned as an indication that the listed references have been considered and made of record.

All objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and an early Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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